" Payd George Spracket to boe wrought out at his comming to Oxford .. xx^s^ "
" Payd John Blahop upon an accompt to be wrought out .. .. .. xx^s^ "
" Payd William Arnoll's three men for theyre coming to Oxford .. .. ix^s^ "
" Item, gave them xlj^d^ in beare w^ch^ I agreed w^th^ them .. .. .. xlj^s^ "

The whole sum paid in this way was 10*l.* 8*s.* It appears from subsequent entries that all the workmen who received it were masons.*

2. At the beginning of the work several yoke of oxen, with carts or waggons, under the charge of four "plowmen," were sent up from Merifield, the seat of the Wadhams, near Ilminster, in Somersetshire, to help in drawing stone and other materials. The third page contains the expenses of the journey, amounting to 3*l.* 8*s.* Nearly a week was spent in it; the halting-places for the nights being Yeovil (spelt *Evill*), Mere, Amesbury, Hungerford, and Abingdon. The oxen, however, seem to have done but little service, and in November 1610 they were all sent home again, having been in Oxford barely six months.

3. The quarries from which the stone for the College came, are not determinately fixed by these accounts. Some was had from Burford, and masons were sent there to work it. For instance, under the date of 25th January, 1612 (new style), the following entries appear:—

"freemasons by the day." { " Wm. Blackshaw for a moneth's work at Burford ... 2 0 0 / his sonne for a moneth there ... 1 12 0 / for boxes to make moulds ... ... 0 1 8 / for 3 tun of stone at burford quarry 0 8 0 } iiij^li^. j^s^. viij^d^."

Again on 4th April, 1612, under the head of "boatmen" we find "John Smith for 1 boat load of burford stone, 7*s.* 6*d.*" Probably this stone was employed for ridge-stones of the roofs, which seem to be called "creste" or "cresta" in this volume.†

A considerable quantity of stone, called, for the most part, "rag-stone" or "wall-stone," came by way of "High Bridge." On 22nd December, 1610, we find these entries, under the head of "stones brought:"—

" pd. Triplow for 27 load of Ragstone brought to high bridge at 12^d^ the load 1 7 0
" Alexander Hill for carr. 27 load of Ragstone from high bridge to the Colledge .. .. 0 18 0 "

But by far the largest quantity was got from quarries opened in ground belonging to Magdalen College, the name of which is first found in the first week of July, 1610. Payments were made from time to time to several persons for the purchase of stone, or for the use of quarries in various places. In particular, a Mr. George Brome received 3*l.* 15*s.* quarterly from the beginning of the work till Michaelmas 1612, if not later, as "quarry-rent," or rent "for quarry ground." It seems, however, that the President and Fellows of Magdalen College liberally allowed stone to be taken from their quarries for the work without making any charge for it. No entry of money paid to them can be found; but at the end of the year 1610 appears the following item:—"For books given to Magd. Coll. for there quarryes, 20*l.*"‡

4. Oak timber was purchased out of Cumnor Wood from Lord Norris, the ancestor of the Earl of Abingdon. Entries like the following are of frequent occurrence:—

" Pd. to my L. Norrice for 100 of oaks .. .. 133 6 8 "
" To Mr. Munke L. Nor. his steward for oks .. .. 5 0 0 "
" Pd. to the L. Norice his woodward for Ernest for 210 okes .. 8 16 8 "
" Pd. for felling the 27 great oaks at 8^d^. a peice .. .. .. 0 18 0 "
" Pd. Thomas Rode for carriag of 36 tunne of timber from Cumner woods to the water side .. 2 5 0 "
" Pd. for carriage of 7 boatload of timber at 2^s^ 1^d^. .. .. 0 14 7 "
" Tho. Brayden for carrying 10^l^ of timber from highbridge .. 0 13 4 "

5. Antony à Wood tells us that the first stone was laid with much ceremony on the 31st July, 1610. In that week occur the following items:—

" for 3 barrells of beere .. 1 4 0 / for cakes bisket & prvine bread .. .. 1 1 10 / for muscke .. .. 2 0 0 / for wine .. .. 1 10 0 / for servitors .. .. 0 12 0 } vi^li^. viij^s^. x^d^."

6. The chapel, dedicated to St. Nicholas,* was consecrated on the Feast of St. Peter,* 29th June, 1613; when an entertainment seems to have been given, far more costly, considering the relative value of money, than anything that is usual in these days. The item runs thus: "pd. for diet at the consecration of the Chapple..... 83 15 0."

7. It might be expected amidst all this minute information, that the name of the architect, and the amount of his remuneration, would certainly be found. No payment, however, to any person, for designs or plans of any kind can be discovered. The word "architect" does not occur, nor any phrase which, according to modern usages, would be equivalent to it. The expression which comes nearest to it is "head workeman," which occurs once, and once only, at the second page of the book, in the account for the week ending Saturday, 26th May, 1610, being the first of the *weekly* accounts. "Payd the head workeman for wages from the beginning of the worke iiij^li^." The account for the next week begins thus: "Imprimis William Arnolls weekely wages, xx^s^." In other weeks we find the same item under various heads, mostly among the masons, sometimes with the layers, and once certainly (whether intentionally or not) among the labourers. And there can be little doubt that "the head workeman" and William Arnoll (or Arnold) are one and the same person. It was he who made the windows for the hall and ante-chapel, and he and *his men* (who are often thus mentioned) seem to have been the masons chiefly employed in building the quadrangle. William Arnold received 1*l.* as his "weekly wages" to the 19th of October, 1611; from that day to the 20th of June, 1612, he received 10*s.* a week; after that date (by which time, be it observed, the hall windows were quite finished) his name does not appear in the book. Several other persons of his name, probably relatives, were employed as masons from the beginning of the work; one of whom, *Edward* Arnoll, succeeded him in the receipt of the weekly wages of 10*s.* up to the 28th of November, 1612, from which time the entry is discontinued. No doubt the work was now so far advanced, that the superintendence of a "head workeman" was thought unnecessary.

It is a coincidence, possibly not quite accidental, that the steward, agent, or man-of-business, employed by the foundress, and indeed residing at her seat at Merifield, was named John Arnold. He assisted in making the purchase of the site of the Augustine Priory for her; and the volume from which these extracts have been made contains evidence that he assisted likewise in superintending the building of the College. Towards its completion, at the end of March, 1613, one of the masons, who had been employed throughout in the carving and more delicate parts of the work, received a gratuity of 2*l.*, "given to him by Mr. John Arnold for his care in the worke."

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Wadham College.

ARCHITECTURAL AND ARTISTIC DOINGS IN IRELAND.

THE Royal Irish Yacht Club-house, Kingstown, is just completed; it is situated to the left of the Dublin and Kingstown Railway. The style is Grecian, the plan rectangular, and the total dimensions are 139 ft. 2 in. long by 58 ft. 2 in. wide. The front elevation is composed of an Ionic colonnade, in length 92 ft. 5 in., breadth 8 ft., height 15 ft. 3 in.; the pillars, eight in number, rest upon a plinth 1 ft. 6 in. high, and support an entablature (composed of frieze and cornice only), 3 ft. 6 in. in height, surmounted by a parapet 3 ft. 10 in. high. The wings at each end are 23 ft. in width, and decorated with antæ, same height as column, and rustics 10 ft. high. A window, with consoles, entablature, and panelled pedestal, and fitted with French sashes, is in the centre of each wing: in the inter spaces of the colonnade are windows with architraves and pedestals only. The piers have single antæ and rustics, carried up to soffit of entablature. The side elevation is composed of four windows, same as those in wings of front, the piers having single antæ and French rustics. The marine elevation is composed of seven windows, between which are panelled piers 4 ft. wide, 15 ft. 3 in. high, and projecting 12 in. The rustics are carried to soffit of entablature, and continued to extreme ends. Two semi-circular bows, 20 ft. diameter, and with three windows each, form the wings. The parapet is balustraded. There is a terrace 180 ft. 3 in. long, and 20 ft. wide, in front of this elevation, which will afford facilities for witnessing the regattas in the harbour and bay. From this terrace there is a flight of steps descending 11 ft. 6 in. to a lower terrace or boat-slip, 2 ft. 6 in. above high water-mark. The retaining wall is formed of rough hammered black stone, with piers at intervals of about 10 ft.; it is surmounted by a frieze and cornice, with cantilever blocks, and a parapet 4 ft. high: between the piers are circular windows, which light the boat-stow under upper terrace: the cornices, dressings, &c. are of chiselled granite. The interior of principal story is entered by a door from centre of colonnade, leading to a hall 24 ft. 6 in. by 20 ft., decorated with fourteen antæ, 12 ft. 6 in. high, supporting an entablature, with an ornamented panelled coved ceiling over it, surmounted by a semicircular metal dome light, 10 ft. in diameter. From this hall branch two corridors, leading to the apartments on this story, namely, drawing-room, 43 ft. 6 in. by 21 ft.; dining-room, 36 ft. by 19 ft.; private ditto and library, 23 ft. 6 in. by 21 ft.; museum, 28 ft. by 19 ft.; billiard-room, 25 ft. by 19 ft.; committee-room, waiting-room, &c., &c. Contract, 4,000*l.* Exterior is of Roman cement. Mr. J. S. Mulvany, architect; Messrs. Crowe, builders.

The benchers of the Queen's Inns are erecting a new wing to the elevation of the Temple facing Constitution-hill. Contract, 4,000*l.*

There is a new church erecting at Philipsburgh Strand, county of Dublin. The plan is cruciform; length, 135 feet; breadth, 35 feet, clear of walls; transepts, 35 feet by 15 feet; to level of wall plate 35 feet; to ridge of roof, 59 feet: open framed roof. Tower (not at present erecting), 22 feet square by 85 feet high. Thickness of walls, 2 feet 8 inches. The flanks and angles to have buttresses. Cost will be about 1,200*l.*, without the tower walls of hammer-dressed black stone. The dressings and mouldings are of granite.

There is another erecting at Mullinahone, county of Tipperary, of the same dimensions—the elevation slightly altered. The cost will be about 1,400*l.* Mr. Patrick Byrne, architect to both.

The new church of St. Lawrence O'Toole, Dublin, has been recently opened for divine service. The style is Early Gothic. Interior not quite finished. The tower, which is central on south elevation, is at present only carried up to ridge of roof. Walls of rubble, with limestone dressings. Mr. J. B. Keane, architect. Cost, when finished, will be about 2,000*l.*

The Board of Public Works have just commenced a new lunatic asylum at Mullingar, to have 150 cells, which, with dormitories, will accommodate 400 inmates. The style is Modern Gothic; length, 765 feet 10 inches; breadth, 97 feet. Central building, containing master's and matron's apartments, recreation rooms, chapel, &c., is 94 feet 10 inches wide, extends from rear elevation 257 feet; height to level of wall plate, 38 feet 6 inches; to ridge of roof, 61 feet 6 inches. Basement under centre building and east wing: walls of rubble, with Tullamore limestone dressings. Mr. Mulvany, architect. Contract, 24,203*l.*

The Board are also erecting asylums at Kilkenny and Omagh, nearly similar in style, dimensions, and arrangements to that above specified: of the former, Mr. Geo. Papworth is architect; of the latter, Mr. W. Farrell is architect.

* Similar items, likewise concerning masons, are found afterwards; as on 13th July, 1611; "Postr. Postr. (probably an error for *Postr. Plumr.*) and his company for coming up, 2*l.* 8*s.*"

† See, under 24th August, 1611; "Pd. Blackshaw on an accompt for creste to boe brought to the colledg, 3*l.*"

‡ Trinity College also appears to have done something to forward the work. Under date of 24th August, 1611, we read: "For wyne given to the president and fellowes of Trinity Colledg, in way of gratuity for the grove, &c."

* In reference to the Christian name of the founder, and to the maiden name of the foundress.

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